

00684.003510



PATENT APPLICATION

IPW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
:)
KEIICHIRO ISHIHARA, et al.)
: Group Art Unit: 2851
Application No.: 10/633,521)
:)
Filed: August 5, 2003)
:)
For: OPTICAL SCANNING)
DEVICE AND IMAGE)
FORMING APPARATUS)
USING THE SAME : July 15, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each non-U.S. patent document so listed is enclosed. Copies of U.S. patent documents are not enclosed, pursuant to the Notice published in the Official Gazette dated August 5, 2003.

U.S. Patent 4,804,981
U.S. Patent 5,025,268
U.S. Patent 5,715,078
U.S. Patent 6,104,521
U.S. Patent 6,166,843
U.S. Patent 6,330,524
U.S. Patent 6,359,717
U.S. Patent 6,388,792
Europe 1,122,579

Europe 1,260,847
Japan 2001-147392

These documents were cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the European Search Report, which is dated April 29, 2004, is enclosed. Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3).

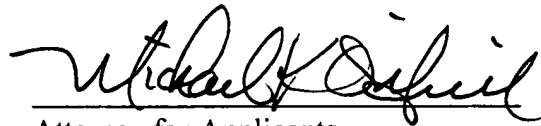
U.S. Patent 5,648,865, which was also cited in the Search Report, was previously cited by Applicants in the Information Disclosure Statement dated January 21, 2004.

The concise explanation of relevance for the Japanese document cited above is provided in the European Search Report and by the English language abstract included with the cited art. In addition, it is believed that U.S. Patent 6,493,126 is an English language counterpart to Japan 2001-147392; that U.S. patent is also listed on the attached form PTO-1449. The Examiner is, of course, referred to the European Examiner's comments on the English language documents as well.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. O'Neill", written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants
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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY DOCKET NO. 00684.003510		APPLICATION NO. 10/633,521	
APPLICANT Keiichiro Ishihara, et al.							
FILING DATE August 5, 2003						GROUP 2851	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4,804,981	2/14/89	Prakash, et al	346	160	
		5,025,268	6/18/91	Arimoto, et al	346	108	
		5,715,078	2/3/98	Shiraishi	359	204	
		6,104,521	8/15/00	Iizuka	359	205	
		6,166,843	12/26/00	Iizuka	359	208	
		6,330,524	12/11/01	Suzuki, et al	702	159	
		6,359,717	3/19/02	Suzuki, et al	359	205	
		6,388,792	5/14/02	Atsuumi, et al	359	207	
		6,493,126	12/10/02	Iizuka	359	205	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		1,122,579	8/8/01	Europe			
		1,260,847	11/27/02	Europe			
		2001-147392	5/29/01	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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